



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA: WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 4, 1859.

The last news from Mexico wears a character more thoroughly hopeless than any that has preceded it. Province against province; chief against chief; civil war every where; Indians and robbers roaming the country unchecked in their depredations; England with her fleets pressing both on the eastern and western coasts for immediate payment, and our own citizens on the eve of entering Sonora and Chihuahua to take possession. What a country is at this moment so wretched as Mexico? The reactionary Mexican Government (that of Zuloaga and Miramon) have formally and officially protested against the recent recognition of the Constitutional or Juarez Government by Mr. McLane, as also against all treaties, conventions, armistices, and contracts made by the same.

Accounts from Mexico speak of the outrages committed on foreigners, by Miramon's soldiers. Mr. Black, the American consul, was compelled to apply to the British minister, Mr. Otway, for protection for himself and countrymen, but the request was denied by Mr. Otway, on the ground that his instructions from his government did not allow him to interfere in behalf of the citizens of other countries. The American consul was induced to make this application because his exequatur had been withdrawn, and he was ordered to leave the country.

From South America we have tidings of a revolution having broken out at Guayaquil, the present seat of the Ecuadorian government. It originated in an attempt upon the life of President Robles, timely prevented by the destruction of the intended assassin. Affairs in Peru remain without change. The southern half of the State is in the hands of the Conservatives, while the Liberals hold the north. G. W. Rykman, United States Secretary of Legation to Chili, has been appointed Consul Agent at Valparaiso, in place of Dr. Trevitt, whose exequatur was revoked. Chili, is in a state of disturbance.

A correspondence, in reference to the employment of the United States troops for the protection of the Courts in Utah, has passed between Governor Cumming and General Johnston. Gen. J. writes that he is under no obligation to conform to the suggestions of the Governor in regard to the military disposition of the troops of the department.

According to private letters received from Hayti, President Geffard is anything but securely seated in power. Several political clubs are formed against him. The blacks seem almost universally opposed to him on the ground of his being a mulatto. He seems to be struggling hard, however, to postpone or prevent any outbreak.

The monthly table of Marine Losses for the past month shows an aggregate of forty-three vessels, of which ten were ships, five were barks, nine were brigs, and nineteen were schooners. The total value of the property lost was one hundred and eighty-three thousand five hundred dollars. This is the value of the property totally lost, exclusive of damage to vessels not amounting to a total loss.

Mr. Greeley announces in the N. Y. Tribune that he proposes taking a trip Westward this season through Kansas and the alleged gold regions at the Eastern base of the Rocky Mountains, thence through Utah and the Great Basin, to California, returning across the continent or by the Isthmus, as circumstances shall dictate.

The Rev. Bishop Pierce, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, arrived at New Orleans on the 19th of April, on his way to California, by the overland route. He is accompanied by his wife and daughter, and three clergymen who go out with him to join the Southern Conference in California.

The Concord Patriot says, the yield of maple sugar in the northern part of New Hampshire is immense, this season. In Coos it is no unusual thing to hear of eight, ten and twelve hundred pounds being made in an ordinary sugar orchard, and in some orchards a ton or more has been made.

The Constitution says that the Post Office Department continues to receive the most satisfactory accounts of the manner in which the "statements" of the indebtedness of the department have been received in the financial circles of the country.

The Norfolk Herald makes honorable mention of the ability, energy, and spirit, with which the Richmond Whig is conducted—and of the zeal with which it has gone through the present gubernatorial canvass.

Several painters, employed in painting a house in Cincinnati, were, last week, precipitated from a scaffold, thirty feet high, and one of them was killed, and another dreadfully injured.

Late letters from Pike's Peak represent that the "gold mines" are pretty much all a humbug—at least, that industrious men can generally make much more elsewhere, than by digging for gold in that region.

Mr. and Mrs. Hawthorne, who have been spending the winter in Rome, are in great affliction. Their daughter Una, an interesting girl of some fifteen summers, lies at the point of death.

As the Richmond Enquirer refers to the statement concerning Gen. Millson's opinion, will it be kind enough to mention, that it was promptly corrected by us, as soon as the subject was brought to our notice?

The inspector's return of Salt made at the Kanawha, Va., Salines, for the quarter ending April 1st, shows that 88,963 bushels were made.

Mr. Rufus Choate will sail for Europe shortly, to be absent some time, with a view to bodily relief.

In his letter of acceptance of the nomination for the Board of Public Works, Gen. Clay says:

"The office being one wholly executive in its character, and its duties defined by the acts of Assembly, if elected, it will be my duty to carry out the law faithfully, and not to interfere with its honest administration—to be diligent in all official duties—and to be equally exacting in the requirement of duty on the part of those under my authority—in the exercise of the appointing power to look to fitness and qualification alone—to exercise no power not authorized by law—to preserve unimpaired the credit of the State—honestly and economically to disburse the funds appropriated by the Legislature to works under construction, and supervise those that are completed and in operation, and endeavor to render them profitable to the State, and beneficial to the community."

Very excellent sentiments, very well and tersely expressed.

In the Philadelphia Court of Quarter Sessions, on Saturday, two fire rioters, respectively named G. W. Alexander and John Devereux, were sentenced to three years imprisonment. In passing sentence, Judge Thompson said:—"It is my duty to endeavor to rescue this community from the scenes of disorder which have been so common in former years, and to pass such a sentence as will have the effect of deterring others from the course which you have pursued. The sentence may seem serious, but it may have the desired effect." The accused were then sentenced each to three years imprisonment in the Eastern Penitentiary. The Court room during the trial was crowded by firemen, and it is to be hoped that this sentence will not be without its effect.

The Supreme Court of Ohio has, by a decision entirely unanimous, refused to allow the writ of habeas corpus to issue for the benefit of Simeon Bushnell and his nineteen fellow-prisoners, charged with the rescue some months ago of a slave at Oberlin, and who are now being separately tried before the United States District Court at Cleveland. The Supreme Court gives no opinion as to the constitutionality of the fugitive slave law, but bases its decision on the ground that the United States District Court has not yet exhausted its authority; that is to say, the prisoners have not yet been sentenced, and until sentence, it is to be presumed that right and justice will be done in the premises by the District Court.

Tuesday last was the 104th anniversary of the arrival of Gen. Braddock at Fort Cumberland. On the 26th of April, 1755, the rear-guard of his army left Oldtown for the Fort, and after marching about nine miles were compelled to encamp in consequence of the oppressiveness of the heat. Here the general passed time and upon his arrival at Cumberland was greeted by the firing of cannon—hearing which the rear-guard struck their tents and continued their march, arriving at the Fort in the evening. They encamped about where is now the junction of Washington and Smallwood streets, in Cumberland.

Gen. Eppa Hunton and Mr. B. Howard Shackelford, esqrs., the Letcher and Goggin electors in this Congressional District, met in discussion at Brentsville, Prince William county, on Monday last. These gentlemen have made appointments for discussion at several places in the District. They have been precluded by private and professional business, and the entire occupation of the public days heretofore by the candidates for Congress, from meeting in discussion. They have now entered the field, however, and will speak wherever occasion shall offer.

For some time past the Order of the Sons of Malta, in Baltimore, have been making preparations, on an extensive scale for a Grand Charity Ball, and all the arrangements having been carried out, the ball came off on Monday evening at the Front Street Theatre, and notwithstanding the unusual price of tickets, the attendance was quite large, at the hour of midnight was estimated at 1,500 persons. This number, however, scarcely came up to the expectation of the members of the Order.

The Mobile Tribune notices the arrival at that city of twenty-one camels from Texas eight of them having been engaged and the rest are for sale for plantation use. It said one of them can easily carry two bales of cotton on its back, at the rate of twenty-five miles a day, over a road which would be impassable to an empty wagon drawn by a pair of mules. The cost of keeping them is very little, and in endurance, under labor and privation, no animal can excel them. They are also gentle in disposition.

Bishop Delaney, now visiting England, was expected to preach at the festival of parochial choirs of the Nottinghamshire Church Choral Union, which was to be held in the old minister of Southwell, on the Thursday in Easter week, April 28. Bishop Delaney was to preach in the morning, and the Bishop of Lincoln in the evening. Upwards of thirty choirs were to be represented on the occasion, to the number of at least three hundred chorists.

An excursion of a novel character is soon to take place, commencing at Buffalo. A party of gentlemen of that city have chartered a steam-tug, in which they propose to go down the Erie canal to Montezuma, thence by Seneca Lake to Elmira, thence by canal to Harrisburg, thence to Philadelphia, Baltimore and New York, thence up the Hudson river to Albany, and then all the way by canal home. It will be the largest catboat excursion ever taken.

The New Orleans Picayune has examined a parcel of Mexican silk received from the Isthmus of Tehantepec, which it says is a curious product of Southern Mexico, and grows on one of the most beautiful and majestic trees these immitable forests. It is strong in fibre and fine in staple as the silk worm's thread, which in appearance it much resembles, and wonderfully soft to the touch.

The American Presbyterian says, that one of the city pastors of Philadelphia having been obliged through ill health to desist for a time from his public labors, was last week waited upon by a member of his church, and proffered three thousand dollars in a check, for the purpose of defraying his expenses to Europe for six months.

Singular Character.

Solomon Sturges, one of the wealthy men of Ohio, and a great land-owner, is selling his immense possessions, because he believes no man has a right to own more land than is necessary for his use and that of his family. In his advertisement he says, "God has not doubt wisely ordained that landmarks should be cursed; and I can tell you that I am exceedingly anxious to sell all my lands, and get clear of the curse." Solomon, doubtless, gets a good price for his land.

### "A Successful Administration."

In the midst of all the difficulties which have surrounded the Administration of Mr. Buchanan, it is most gratifying to observe the entire success which has attended his measures.

The above is the opening sentence of a long editorial in the court journal, the Washington "Constitution." The truth of the matter is, we cannot call to mind, at the present writing, a single solitary "measure" of Mr. Buchanan's Administration, which has been attended with success—either partial or entire. Certainly, this may be averred of all those leading measures upon which he challenged the verdict of the country. Some of his minor measures—such as the removal of a refractory postmaster, or the awarding of a fat contract to a friend who had "contributed" to his election—may have been attended with "entire success." Very likely such has been the case. But not one of the measures which have in any respect attracted public attention, has given the least symptom of vigorous vitality.

Take, for instance, the admission of Kansas into the Union. Mr. Buchanan made this an Administration measure—but though there was a large Democratic majority in both Houses of Congress, the enterprise met with a disastrous failure. The Administration was defeated upon the measure, and had to fall back upon the miserable expedient of the "English swindle."

So, also, with respect to a Pacific Railroad. The President has been hammering away at this question since he first went into office. But is the Pacific Railroad built? Is it even commenced? Is there any prospect that it ever will be made by the Federal Government? Not the slightest. So much for the "entire success" which has attended this measure.

The President, among the other measures which he has recommended to Congress, has given especial prominence to the substitution of specie instead of ad valorem duties in the collection of the revenue. We are not advised of the "entire success" which has attended this measure. As we should be very glad to hear that such a measure has been adopted, the "Constitution" will confer a favor on us by assuring us of its "entire success." We have not yet heard of it.

In like manner, the proposition of Mr. Sillidell to put thirty millions of dollars in the hands of the President to negotiate the acquisition of Cuba, was an Administration measure. The President has not even deemed the subject worthy of consideration. The question has been given the go-by with the most impassive indifference. Any one who has heard of the "entire success" of this measure will oblige us by giving us the full particulars.

The President has undertaken to suppress the African slave-trade. This was another one of his "measures." So far from accomplishing the object, the trade has received a fresh impetus from the Presidential interference. Mr. Loring, of the yacht Wanderer, has been acquitted without difficulty, and it was only yesterday that we saw in a Southern exchange that another cargo of slaves had just been landed upon the coast of Florida. The President has been no more successful in this than he was in defeating Douglas in Illinois—in which last endeavor, it is almost needless to say, he had our most cordial sympathy.

So that when the "Constitution" speaks of the "entire success" which has attended all the measures of the Administration, it would oblige us by giving us a bill of particulars.—*Lynchburg Virginian.*

English Demands on Mexico.

Lord Otway, the British Minister in Mexico, has issued a circular, in which he declares:

"From a despatch which I received from Earl Malmesbury by the last mail, it would appear that Her Britannic Majesty's Government, wearied out by the fruitless exertions to obtain from the Government of Mexico, the return of the Government of Mexico, settling the claims of the outstanding claims of British subjects, and, being unable to bring to bear upon that government the influence of the British naval force now off Vera Cruz, have determined on holding the whole government of Mexico responsible for the observance of all international obligations, as far as England is concerned. It is, therefore, the intention of Her Majesty's Government, to take advantage of the presence of the fleet in the Gulf, and to hold Vera Cruz, by what is called a blockade, until such time as the Government of Mexico, and enforce there as far as possible, the payment of all outstanding claims of British subjects in Mexico."

Agriculture and Commerce Compared.

I heard a gentleman of acute observation and large experience say, many years ago, that he had made out a list of one of the most successful farmers, and the other of the most successful merchants, starting with fair prospects in life—the one class to live on the produce of their farms, till the most part by their own hands, and this under the comparatively imperfect system of agriculture which prevailed in the last generation; the other to take their chances in the lottery of commerce. At the end of the term for which the comparison was made, the farmers were the more prosperous body. None of them had become very rich—a few only had wholly failed in life, and the rest had caused no essentially connected with agriculture pursuits. The greater part had lived and brought up their families in comfort. Of the merchants, by far the greater part had wholly failed; and one or two only had greatly prospered.—*Excerpt last letter to the Ledger.*

Land Warrant Business.

The United States Pension Office issued, during the month of April, land warrants as follows:

Under the act of 1855: 435 warrants of 160 acres, 46 warrants of 120 acres, 37 warrants of 80 acres, and 2 warrants of 40 acres. Total, 520 warrants; covering 84,160 acres.

Under the act of September 28, 1850: 4 warrants of 160 acres, 1 of 80 acres, and 1 of 40 acres; the whole covering 760 acres.

The entire number of land warrants issued reaches five hundred and twenty-six, and covers 85,920 acres.

During the same month, six hundred and nineteen original applications for land warrants have been received and filed in the Pension Office.

The James River and New York Steamers.

The N. York correspondent of the Charleston Courier thus speaks of this fine line of steamers:

"The Richmond line of steamers are doing a most capital business. The Roanoke has been a passing vessel almost ever since she took her place on the route. The Jamestown surpasses the Roanoke in speed and in profit. To-day another steamer for this line is launched, the Yorktown, and she will, no doubt, be as far ahead of the Jamestown, as the Jamestown was ahead of the Roanoke. William H. Webb has built all these ships."

The Liverpool Assizes, on the first of April, Mitchell, the second engineer of the brig steamer, was tried for the murder of Lanyon, a fireman of that vessel. The deceased had, as will be recollected, been tied by the prisoner to a ladder in the stokehold, opposite the furnace, and the heat produced such an effect upon him as to render him insensible, from which he never recovered.—Buchanan, the chief engineer, who ordered Mitchell to tie the deceased in that position, has fled from justice. The prisoner was found guilty of manslaughter, and sentenced to fifteen years' penal servitude.

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A COSTLY CASE.—The Circuit Court of Kent county, Md., was occupied four days last week in the trial of an appeal case of Geo. W. Cooper vs. Wm. McManis, to recover a certain "bob-tail cow." The [?] town News states that over fifty witnesses were examined, and the estimated cost of the case is six hundred dollars. This is a round sum to be spent in litigation where only twenty dollars were involved. The jury gave a verdict for the appellee, with one cent damages.

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"We had thirty years to prepare for an English visitor, we should never get London already as dead, appears to have been with our waiting at all. Every street, every body, clean, washing and bathing as regular institutions as meat and drink; no beggars, no cripples, no squallor, no poverty, no drunkenness, no fighting, no bad smells—in fact, nothing to remind the Englishmen of their beloved city."

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### The British Parliament.

The long-promised ministerial statements of the progress and actual state of negotiations upon the Italian question, were made in the British House of Lords by the Earl of Malmesbury and Derby, and in the House of Commons by Mr. Disraeli, on the 15th ult.

From these revelations it appears that the informal internationalism attempted by the English government through the visits of Lord Cowley to Paris and Vienna, had reached an encouraging state, when the proposition of a general Congress, emanating from Russia, was received. Abandoning it once devoted efforts, the British cabinet at once devoted itself to advance the Russian project, but early encountered a serious difficulty in the refusal of Austria to treat unless Sardinia disarmed. Subsequently this difficulty was obtained by a suggestion that the three quasi belligerent powers should disarm previous to the meeting of the Congress. Austria acceded to this plan, but Sardinia declined, and the Emperor of the French would only comply, with an important modification—namely, that if Sardinia disarmed, she should be admitted to a seat in the Congress to deliberate on the subject of the Congress, but should constitute their initial topic.

The Earl of Malmesbury, in the course of his speech in the House of Lords, after giving a history of the negotiations to prevent a war, remarked:

"I feel all the responsibility and gravity of the situation; and your lordships must know that for our own sakes as individuals, and for our sakes as a government, we must have been anxious to effect the accomplishment of the views we entertained, and that there is an object much greater than that of the division of the government, and that object is, peace. [Hear, hear.] And, my lords, when you consider, if unhappily war is to take place, what that war may be, you will I think agree with me that the responsibility of those men who have abused or neglected the occasion to avert it, is great indeed. [Cheers.] It will be no war between two chivalrous nations in distant lands, like that we waged, in conjunction with France, against Russia in the Crimea. It may involve elements which I fear can scarcely be settled in our time. [Hear, hear.] It will move persons who, without the slightest patriotism, will find in such a war, the hope of promoting their own desperate objects. [Hear, hear.] It will include every possible hue and color, who find, or expect to find, their account in such a war. It will include exiles, it will include princes—all of whom will expect to find their account in such a war. [Hear, hear.] It is impossible for any human being, whatever his experience may have been, to predict where it will end, and when we shall see the termination of it. [Hear.] I may then be permitted, as one of the ministers of that country, to ask those ministers and those courts who are more immediately concerned, to think once more how serious is the responsibility which devolves upon them, and how dreadful the calamities which may be produced by any negligence or hastiness on their part. The only consolation we can have personally, the only consolation Her Majesty's government can have, is that we have not omitted a single effort to avert those disasters—[cheers]—that if they occur, it is by the will of God; and may Almighty God direct the issue. [Cheers.]"

The Earl of Derby also made an able speech, from which we quote:

"I think that the time has now come when it must be finally settled whether the Congress is to meet at all, and whether a peaceable solution of this question be possible. I must say I think it will be neither for the honor nor the interest of this country that these discussions as to the terms of a congress to be held should long be protracted. [Hear, hear.] The time is nearly come when England—[cheers]—has, indeed, made one more effort, suggested one more proposition, which I am not at liberty to lay before your lordships—shall say that the period has gone by for trifling, and that, having exhausted all her powers of persuasion, and all her tone of argument, she has now to come to the point of effecting a settlement upon principles which have received the unanimous approval of her Parliament, she must, however reluctantly, withdraw from interference in affairs in which she can no longer hope her interference would be useful to the public interest or consistent with her own dignity, and must again reserve to herself, as she has done up to the present moment, absolute and entire freedom to take such steps as she may hereafter deem it expedient to take. [Hear, hear.]"

It will be a war, in the first place, of the most sanguinary description, because a war of principle and of passion. It will not be a war between two great nations contending for some definite object, but a war exciting the most violent passions, and one begun in which it will extend far beyond the limits of that country. Other passions will be roused, other interests will be touched, other nations will be called to interfere, and the war originating in Italy will certainly at no distant period extend far and wide, wrapping the whole of Europe in one general conflagration. [Hear, hear.] It would not be difficult to trace the steps by which such extension will necessarily ensue; but I shall only say that even for England it would be impossible to look with total indifference to any alteration in the position of the Adriatic or of the Italian peninsula, and the consequences which are such as require the most careful vigilance on our part. [Hear, hear.] It is obvious, moreover, that a little overstepping of the limits of Italy itself, would produce a state of things which, under the strongest and highest treaty obligations, would bring the whole of Germany into the field, in defence of the German confederation. [Hear, hear.] Germany brought into the field, what is to become of Belgium, of Switzerland, of the general state of the political relations of Europe? War once begun in Italy can never be confined to Italy, and once spread beyond the limits of Italy it is impossible to foresee who will be drawn into it, how far it may extend, or what may be its result. [Hear, hear.] England is deeply interested in the maintenance of peace. She is prepared to make almost any sacrifice for that object, but, in the interest of peace, she cannot assume a position which would place her in a helpless and defenceless condition; and if war breaks out, whatever be the consequences, our neutrality, as long as it may last, must to a certain extent be an armed neutrality. [Hear, hear.]—entirely to take our part on that side, whatever it may be, which honor, justice and the dignity of this country may indicate, as best deserving our support. [Cheers.]"

Honor to whom Honor is Due.

In 1837, a large Boston dealer in boots and shoes failed for \$50,000. He compromised with his creditors for 50 cents on the dollar. But it took twenty years of moral suasion and careful management to get even that. He came out of that trouble a poor man, but he resolved that he would master his misfortune. Starting again with the hope of redeeming the pledge made to himself, he still met with reverses, until, as we learn, some five or six years ago, the prospect of doing what he had so long cherished seemed hopeless. But at last fortune smiled most propitiously. On Thursday morning one of our largest and oldest manufacturers received a check from his old customer for the balance of the amount due when he broke down in his business, twenty-two years ago. Such an instance must be necessarily rare, because so many years of business life after such a general bankruptcy as was that in 1837, is the lot of but very few.—*Malden Journal.*

Lexington Presbytery.

This body met in the Presbyterian Church in Staunton, Va., on Wednesday night last, and adjourned Saturday evening. During the session, twenty-two ministers and a large number of elders were present. The Rev. Messrs. Trimble and Irwin, Clerks. An interesting debate occurred on Friday night, on the proposed changes in the Book of Discipline in the Presbyterian Church, and the Presbytery resolved to ask the General Assembly to postpone definite action on the subject for another year. On Saturday morning the Rev. Dr. Judkin delivered an elaborate speech in favor of adhering to the rule prohibiting the marriage of a church member with the sister of a deceased wife. Other ministers took part in the discussion. Messrs. Brown and D. G. Irwin, ministers, and James Henry and James Wilson, elders, were elected delegates to the General Assembly, which meets in Indianapolis, Ind. The next meeting of the Presbytery will be held in Buchanan, Upshur county.

STORIES DEATH FROM A SINGULAR CAUSE.—We find the following in the Troy Times: On Tuesday of this week, a gentleman named Augustus B. Bedford, a native of New York, and who was in this city on business, got shaved at one of our barber shops. On returning from it to the store of a friend with whom he was visiting, he remarked that he believed the barber had given him some disease, as a small pimple on his lip pained him very badly, and commenced swelling after he was shaved, presenting an angry and inflamed appearance. During the day this soreness grew worse and he suffered so much from it that he decided to return home, which he did on Wednesday. His condition rapidly became more distressing—the pain extended through the body and to the vitals—and finally, on Sunday morning, after suffering untold agony, he died. The deceased, as long as he remained sensible, attributed his sufferings to the inoculation of the pimple upon his lip with poison from the barber's razor.

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